

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings

American Medical Association, St. Louis, Missouri, May 15 to 19, 1939. Olin West, M. D., Secretary, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

California Medical Association, Hotel Del Monte, May 1 to 4, 1939. George H. Kress, M. D., Secretary, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

Pacific Coast Surgical Association, San Francisco, Oakland, Del Monte, March 28 to 31, 1939. H. Glenn Bell, M. D., Secretary, University of California Hospital, San Francisco.

Medical Broadcasts*

Los Angeles County Medical Association

The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of March is as follows: Thursday, March 2—KECA, 10:45 a. m., The Road of Health.

Saturday, March 4—KFI, 9:00 a. m., The Road of Health; KFAC, 11:30 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Thursday, March 9—KECA, 10:45 a. m., The Road of Health.

Saturday, March 11—KFI, 8:00 a. m., The Road of Health; KFAC, 11:30 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Thursday, March 16—KECA, 10:45 a. m., The Road of Health.

Saturday, March 18—KFI, 9:00 a. m., The Road of Health; KFAC, 11:30 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Thursday, March 23—KECA, 10:45 a. m., The Road of Health.

Saturday, March 25—KFI, 9:00 a. m., The Road of Health; KFAC, 11:30 a. m., Your Doctor and You.

Thursday, March 30—KECA, 10:45 a. m., The Road of Health.

Health for the Masses—How?—In a series of articles, commencing on February 6, the *San Francisco News* presented an interesting series of articles, three of which were from the pen of Dr. T. Henshaw Kelly of San Francisco, who presented the story of Voluntary Medical Service and the newly organized California Physicians' Service. The foreword of the third article of the series follows:

"Should health insurance be on a compulsory or voluntary basis? This issue confronts Californians, with the State Administration sponsoring a compulsory health insurance bill, pending in the Legislature, and the California Physicians' Service, organized by the California Medical Association, announcing it is about to offer a state-wide voluntary health insurance. Having discussed the need for health insurance, and the steps already taken toward it, the *News* offers the views of proponents of each system: First, Dr. Barbara N. Armstrong, professor of law at the University of California, author and expert in the field of social security, presents the case for the Administration's bill, which she helped prepare, in a series of articles of which the following is the first. Next, Dr. T. Henshaw Kelly, assistant secretary-treasurer of the California Physicians' Service, will discuss the voluntary system.—The Editor."

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (stating station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

Federal Income Tax Reports: Deductions.—A summary of possible deductions allowable for physicians appeared in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, March, 1938, on page 228. Readers who are compiling their income tax reports may wish to refer to the article.

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology: Examinations.—Application for admission to the Group A, May, 1939, Board examinations must be on file in the Secretary's office not later than March 15, 1939.

The general oral, clinical and pathological examinations for all candidates, Part II Examinations (Groups A and B), will be conducted by the entire Board, meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, on May 15 and 16, 1939, immediately prior to the annual meeting of the American Medical Association. Notice of time and place of these examinations will be forwarded to all candidates well in advance of the examination dates.

Candidates for reexamination in Part II (Groups A and B), must request such reexamination by writing the Secretary's office before April 1, 1939. Candidates who are required to take reexaminations must do so before the expiration of three years from the date of their first examination.

The annual dinner meeting of the Board to which all diplomates and candidates are invited, as well as their wives and others interested in the work of the Board, will be held at the Congress Hotel, St. Louis, on Wednesday evening, May 17, following the close of the examinations.

Application blanks and booklets of information may be obtained from Dr. Paul Titus, Secretary, 1015 Highland Building, Pittsburgh, (6) Pennsylvania.

The Samuel D. Gross Prize: Fifteen Hundred Dollars.—The conditions annexed by the testator are that the prize "shall be awarded every five years to the writer of the best original essay, not exceeding 150 printed pages, octavo, in length, illustrative of some subject in Surgical Pathology or Surgical Practice founded upon original investigations, the candidates for the prize to be American citizens."

It is expressly stipulated that the competitor who receives the prize shall publish his essay in book form, and that he shall deposit one copy of the work in the Samuel D. Gross Library of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery, and that on the title page it shall be stated that to the essay was awarded the Samuel D. Gross Prize of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery.

The essays, which must be written by a single author in the English language, should be sent to the "Trustees of the Samuel D. Gross Prize of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgery, care of the College of Physicians, 19 South Twenty-second Street, Philadelphia," on or before January 1, 1940.

Each essay must be typewritten, distinguished by a motto, and accompanied by a sealed envelope bearing the same motto, containing the name and address of the writer. No envelope will be opened except that which accompanies the successful essay.

The committee will return the unsuccessful essays if reclaimed by their respective writers, or their agents, within one year.

The committee reserves the right to make no award if the essays submitted are not considered worthy of the prize.

Lawrence to Speak at National Physicians' Meet.—The work of the University of California cyclotron in producing radioactive substances and in the direct treatment of cancer through its neutron rays is to be made the subject of the convocation address of the annual meeting, American College of Physicians, in New Orleans. The address is to be made by Dr. E. O. Lawrence, director of the University's radiation laboratory. Dr. William J. Kerr, head of the department of medicine, in the University's Medical School, San Francisco, is president of the College. The meeting is to be held March 27 to 31.

Doctor Lawrence has selected for his topic, The Newer Physics and Medicine. He will go into the production of the radioactive substances and the neutron ray in some detail, and will touch on their application in the field of medicine from the viewpoint of the physicist solely.

Portland Postgraduate Course in Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.—The Fourth Annual Spring Postgraduate Course in Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology will be held in Portland, Oregon, the week of April 3 to 8, 1939. It is announced that the course will be honored by the presence of two nationally known guest teachers for the full week. They are Dr. John J. Shea of Memphis, and Dr. Webb W. Weeks of New York. This course is sponsored jointly by the University of Oregon Medical School and the Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology. The program is a diversified one; mornings are occupied with didactic lectures, afternoons are devoted to clinical work and at the evening sessions there will be classes in the Department of Surgical Anatomy. Added features to this "fourth" course will be a course in cat's eye surgery given by Doctor Weeks, and Teaching Moving Pictures, which have proven so popular at the American Academy meetings.

The preliminary programs will be ready about March 1. These, and additional information can be secured by writing to Paul Bailey, Secretary, 929 Medical Dental Building, Portland, Oregon.

A New Treatment for Diphtheria and Lockjaw.—The use of a single agent designed to protect against the diseases of diphtheria and tetanus is being started by the department of pediatrics of the University of California Medical School as part of its disease prevention program. In the past, diphtheria prevention was first accomplished by the use of toxin-antitoxin mixtures. It was later shown that formalin could be used in place of the antitoxin and that the resultant preparation known as toxoid was not only more efficient as an immunizing agent, but also avoided the horse serum present in antitoxin.

More recently, Doctor Ramon, who first developed toxoid at the Pasteur Institute has shown that the same method can be applied to tetanus. While the toxoids of diphtheria and tetanus can be given separately, Doctor Ramon and others working in the field of immunology have shown that the combination of the two toxoids is of benefit.

Thus, an infant or a child with no more manipulation than is now done to protect against diphtheria, can also have the benefit of protection against tetanus. It is hoped the procedure may avoid for some sensitive individuals the hazard of tetanus antitoxin administration.

At the present time emergency hospitals use the antitoxin as a preventive measure against tetanus developing in injuries, particularly from street accidents. It is hoped that with the new program a final injection of toxoid for such individuals as have had the program will be more efficient and simpler.

The program has been adopted by the French Army and a few clinics in the United States. As a measure of considerable merit for public health a more extensive adoption can be anticipated.

Public Health League of California.—The annual meeting of the Northern District of the Public Health League of California was held on Thursday evening, February 9, at the Veneto Restaurant in San Francisco.

Bills now before the Legislature and the election of officers were the major items on the program.

Stanford University School of Medicine.—Stanford University is pleased to announce that the twenty-seventh course of Lane Lectures will be given by Dr. Thomas M. Rivers on May 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26, 1939. The general title for the series of lectures will be "Viruses and Virus Diseases."

Doctor Rivers is the director of the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and is an international authority on virus diseases.

"Syphilis and Your Town."—"The cheapest thing any town can do with syphilis is to cure it."

That was the keynote of a recent announcement by Dr. R. A. Vonderlehr, Assistant Surgeon-General in charge of the Division of Venereal Diseases, United States Public Health Service, of a new nine-point program for syphilis control in the local community. The effort is a part of the Government's nation-wide campaign to check the spread of venereal diseases.

The program is outlined in a new publication, *Syphilis and Your Town*, designed to assist local communities in making an adequate check upon the scope, effectiveness and facilities of local venereal disease control projects. The nine points, set forth in a questionnaire intended to suggest best results from unified action by local groups, are as follows:

1. Do your state and town have a trained public health staff that knows how to deal with syphilis?
2. Does your state require reporting and follow-up on all cases of syphilis?
3. Are patients in your town assured of good syphilis treatment even if they cannot afford to pay?
4. Do physicians and clinics in your town have access to free laboratory service for blood tests?
5. Do your state and town distribute free antisyphilitic drugs to all physicians and clinics?
6. Is every expectant mother required to have a blood test in your state?
7. Are medical certificates, including a blood test for syphilis, required before marriage in your state?
8. Does every complete physical examination given in your town include the blood test?
9. Has your town an education program aimed at age groups most frequently acquiring syphilis?

Doctor Vonderlehr pointed out that public education is the crux of syphilis control, and added, "People must learn to consult a doctor or clinic. They must know that drug-store remedies and self-treatment are worthless. They must know that treatment begun early will cure syphilis in nearly every case, while, if left untreated, the patient is likely to develop brain, heart, or nervous system complications."

The Public Health Service stressed the value of the blood test and the importance of making this test a part of every complete physical examination. "Syphilis control programs," said the new publication, "should make provision for blood tests, not only for prenatal examination but as routine for every hospital patient and a part of every insurance examination. Life expectancy of untreated syphilis is 20 per cent lower than normal."

Doctor Vonderlehr concluded by insisting that the public must realize the cost of syphilis—its share in lives wasted, its toll in dollars. "All this is preventable if adequate control programs can be started and continued in every part of the country," he declared. "It will be cheaper, too—the cheapest thing any town can do with syphilis is to cure it."

Southern California Medical Association.—The one-hundredth semi-annual meeting of the Southern California Medical Association will be held at the headquarters of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, 1925 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, Wednesday and Thursday, March 15 and 16, 1939. A splendid program of scientific papers and discussions has been arranged.

Commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Association, a semi-centennial celebration will be held on the evening of Wednesday, March 15, 1939, at seven o'clock, at the California Club. Following a semi-formal stag dinner, addresses will be made by a brilliant array of leaders of organized medicine.

All members of the county medical societies of Southern California are invited to attend the scientific meetings and the dinner program. Since it is anticipated that there will be a large attendance at the dinner, it will be necessary that reservations be made without delay. Covers will be laid only for those who have paid reservations. Checks in the sum of \$2.50 per plate should be made payable to the Southern California Medical Association, and may be sent to Suite 501, 1930 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles. On receipt of remittances, tickets, which will be numbered, will be forwarded without delay.

The program follows:

March 15

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

2 p. m.

Pneumonia—The Results of Specific Therapy in Cases Due to *Pneumococci* of the Higher Types.—Roy E. Thomas, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by George T. Burke, M.D., Pasadena, and Louis E. Martin, M.D., Los Angeles.

Prophylactic Measures in Pernicious Anemia.—John Martin Askey, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by William S. Kiskadden, M. D., and A. M. Roberts, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

Functional Indigestion as Related to Acidity of the Duodenal Contents.—Alfred E. Koehler, M.D., Santa Barbara.

Discussion by William C. Boeck, M.D., and Ernest C. Fishbaugh, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

Gout.—Philip S. Hench, M.D., Rochester, Minnesota.

Discussion by Joseph A. Pollia, M.D., and Ray A. Carter, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

The Relation of Medicine to Insurance.—William H. Scoins, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by Verne R. Mason, M.D., and John C. Wilson, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

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March 15

Semicentennial Celebration on the occasion of the One Hundredth Semiannual Meeting of the Southern California Medical Association.

Dinner, Wednesday, March 15, 7 p. m., California Club, Los Angeles.

PROGRAM

Address of Welcome, John C. Ruddock, M.D., President
Toastmaster, Edward M. Pallette, M.D.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Philip S. Hench, M.D., Rochester, Minnesota; Associate Professor of Medicine, Mayo Foundation, University of Minnesota.

William W. Roblee, M.D., Riverside; President, California Medical Association.

William J. Kerr, M.D., San Francisco; Professor of Medicine, University of California; President, American College of Physicians; President, American Heart Association.

Donald C. Balfour, M.D., Rochester, Minnesota; Professor of Surgery, Mayo Foundation, University of Minnesota; Past President, American College of Surgeons; Regent, American College of Surgeons.

Rock Sleyster, M.D., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; Medical Director, Milwaukee Sanitarium; President-elect, American Medical Association.

March 16

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

10 a. m.

Late Results Following Operations on the Biliary Tract.—James H. Saint, M.D., Santa Barbara.

Discussion by Leroy B. Sherry, M.D., Pasadena, and Conrad J. Baumgartner, M.D., Los Angeles.

The Present Status of the Treatment of Fractures of the Neck of the Femur.—Francis M. McKeever, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by Vernon P. Thompson, M. D., and Paul E. McMaster, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

Osteomyelitis of the Frontal Bone.—Joseph B. Stevens, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by Pierre P. Violé, M.D., and J. Mackenzie Brown, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

The Management of Strabismus.—John P. Lordan, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by M. N. Beigelman, M.D., and A. Ray Irvine, M.D., both of Los Angeles.

March 16

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

2 p. m.

Hypoglycemia with Special Reference to Adenoma of the Pancreas.—Hildahl I. Burtness, M.D., Santa Barbara.

Discussion by Percival A. Gray, M.D., Santa Barbara, and George Thomason, M.D., Los Angeles.

Sulfanilamide.—A. G. Bower, M.D., and William J. Mitchell, Jr., M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by A. Elmer Belt, M.D., Los Angeles, and Paul M. Hamilton, M.D., Alhambra.

Avitaminosis as Seen in Private Practice.—Arthur A. Marlow, M.D., La Jolla.

Discussion by Howard F. West, M.D., Los Angeles, and Benjamin N. Tager, M.D., West Los Angeles.

Urolithiasis and Protracted Recumbency.—Albert J. Scholl, M.D., Los Angeles.

Discussion by James A. May, M.D., San Diego, and Henry Verrill Findlay, M.D., Santa Barbara.

March 16

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

Joint Meeting of the Southern California Medical Association with the Los Angeles County Medical Association.
The Social Aspects of Medicine.—Rock Sleyster, M.D., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; Medical Director, Milwaukee Sanitarium; President-elect, American Medical Association.

Malaria Infection: Color Test for Blood Corpuscles.

A new and simple biochemical color test of blood corpuscles which promises to disclose a malaria infection when parasites cannot be found under the microscope has been devised by H. O. Proske, Chief Medical Technician, and Dr. Robert B. Watson, Senior Malariologist, Division of Malaria Studies and Control of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the technique of the new test method is described in a paper, "The Protein Tyrosin Reaction," in the current issue of *Public Health Reports* of the United States Public Health Service.

A diagnosis of malaria from clinical findings alone has sometimes proved to be inconclusive because some of its many symptoms are similar to those of other diseases. For this reason it is necessary to resort to the use of certain laboratory tests—such as the microscopic demonstration of malaria parasites in the red blood corpuscles or a specific pigment in certain white blood cells. This is not always easy to accomplish, however, particularly when the number of parasites in the blood circulation is small.

The new Proske-Watson test is based upon the fact that a certain fraction of the blood proteins, the euglobulins, is increased in most cases of malaria, and that this increase can be demonstrated by the color intensity developed by this protein.

No equipment other than is found in any clinical laboratory is necessary to perform this test, and the reagents employed may be purchased from clinical supply houses. Sterility of equipment is unnecessary. The only major precaution is that all glassware must be chemically clean.

In 1927, Henry described a seriodiagnostic test for malaria. This test was based on the assumption that malaria pigment is an active substance which either gives rise to the production of antibodies or imparts flocculating peculiarities to the serum of malaria patients.

It has been suggested that a photometer be used in connection with the reading of the Henry test and its principal modifications. Since this instrument is expensive, the performance of the test has thus been limited to unusually well-

equipped laboratories, a circumstance possibly accounting for the fact that the Henry test has not been much used in this country.

It was the purpose of Proske and Watson to devise a simpler and more accurate biochemical method for the quantitative estimation of serum euglobulin which would give results comparable to the melano-reaction of Henry and the distilled water method of Chlorine, obviate the necessity for the use of an expensive photometer, and be relatively easy to perform, so that it could be more generally adaptable for the diagnosis of malaria.

The originators of the new test, in a recent series of experiments, have obtained 97.4 per cent positive reactions in known malaria cases as compared with 81.9 per cent yielded by microscopic examination. The test is positive in a few other diseases, but these can be differentiated by specific tests.

Medical School, University of California: Alumni Day, March 22, 1939.—Commemorating the seventy-first charter anniversary of the University of California, the Medical School will celebrate its alumni day on Wednesday, March 22, 1939, at the University of California Hospital, Medical Center, San Francisco.

The program follows:

MORNING
Toland Hall

- 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.—Demonstration clinics, Division of Medicine.—Dr. William J. Kerr and staff.
10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.—Demonstration clinics, Division of Surgery.—Dr. Howard C. Naffziger and staff.
11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.—Intermission.
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.—Demonstration clinics, Division of Pediatrics.—Dr. Francis S. Smyth and staff.

Operating Rooms

- 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.—Operative clinics, Division of Surgery.—Dr. Howard C. Naffziger and staff. Operative clinics, Division of Obstetrics and Gynecology.—Dr. Frank W. Lynch and staff.

Afternoon

- 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.—Tour of inspection of the Medical Center. Senior medical students will act as guides.

Annual Congress on Medical Education and Licensure.—The thirty-fifth session was held on February 13 and 14, at the Palmer House, Chicago.

The program follows:

MONDAY MORNING, 10:00

Ray Lyman Wilbur, M.D., Presiding

- The Protection of the Public Through the Activities of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association.—Ray Lyman Wilbur, M.D., LL.D., Chairman, Stanford University, Calif.
College Education for the Future Doctor.—James B. Conant, Ph.D., President, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
The Organization and Subject Matter of General Education.—Robert Maynard Hutchins, LL.D., President, University of Chicago.
Canadian Experiments in Medical Economics.—T. C. Routley, M.D., LL.D., General Secretary, Canadian Medical Association, Toronto, Ont.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, 2:15

Fred Moore, M.D., Presiding

- The South as Testing Ground for the Regional Approach to Public Health and Public Welfare.—Howard W. Odum, LL.D., Director, Institute for Research in Social Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Discussion.

Symposium on the Small Hospital

- The Community Hospital.—Barry C. Smith, General Director, The Commonwealth Fund, New York.
Organization and Management of the Small Hospital.—Malcolm T. MacEachern, M.D., Associate Director, American College of Surgeons, Chicago.
Planning for a Small Hospital.—William Henry Walsh, M.D., Consultant Specialist on Hospitals, Chicago.

The Construction of the Small Hospital.—Carl A. Erikson of the firm of Schmidt, Garden and Erikson, Architects, Chicago. Discussion.

TUESDAY MORNING, 10:00

J. H. Musser, M.D., Presiding

The Program of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene.—Clarence M. Hincks, M.D., General Director, National Committee for Mental Hygiene, New York. Discussion.

Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene.—T. Lyle Hazlett, M.D., Professor of Industrial Hygiene, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and Medical Director, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, Pittsburgh. Discussion.

The Relation of Anesthesiology to Medical Education.—Ralph M. Waters, M.D., Department of Anesthesia, University of Wisconsin Medical School, Madison. Discussion.

Tenure of Members of the Faculty in Schools of Medicine.—Anton J. Carlson, Ph.D., Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor of Physiology, University of Chicago. Discussion.

TUESDAY, 12:30

What the Undergraduate College Should Give the Future Doctor.—William Mather Lewis, LL.D., President, Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania.

MONDAY, 6:30

Recent Impressions of British Medical Education.—Willard C. Rappleye, M.D., Dean, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

Presidential Address.—H. J. Lehnhoff, M.D., President, The Federation of State Medical Boards, Lincoln, Nebraska. Round table discussion.

TUESDAY MORNING, 9:30

H. J. Lehnhoff, M.D., Presiding

Does Modern Medical Licensure Procedure Conform to the Accepted Standards of Medical Education?—A. C. Furstenberg, M.D., Dean, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor.

Examination Results Before Massachusetts State Board of Registration in Medicine.—Edward A. Knowlton, M.D., Holyoke; Stephen Rushmore, M.D., Boston.

American Graduates of British Medical Schools.—Harold Rypins, M.D., Secretary, New York State Board of Medical Examiners, Albany.

Citizenship and Medical Licensure.—J. Earl McIntyre, M.D., Secretary, Michigan State Board of Registration in Medicine, Lansing.

Legal Status of the Internes.—Fred E. Clow, M.D., Secretary, New Hampshire Board of Registration in Medicine, Wolfeboro. Discussion.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 2:00

H. J. Lehnhoff, M.D., Presiding

Hospital Internes Service in the United States.—Robin C. Buerki, M.D., Director of Study, Commission on Graduate Medical Education, Chicago.

Looking at Health Insurance Abroad.—J. George Crownhart, Secretary, State Medical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Trends in the Distribution of Medical Care.—R. G. Leland, M.D., Director, Bureau of Medical Economics, American Medical Association, Chicago. Discussion. Executive session.

American Association for the Study of Goiter: Van Meter Prize Award.—The American Association for the Study of Goiter again offers the Van Meter Prize Award of Three Hundred Dollars and two honorable mentions for the best essays submitted concerning original work on problems related to the thyroid gland. The Award will be made at the annual meeting of the Association, which will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 22, 23, and 24, 1939, provided essays of sufficient merit are presented in competition.

The competing essays may cover either clinical or research investigations; should not exceed three thousand words in length; must be presented in English; and a type-

written, double-spaced copy sent to the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. W. Blair Mosser, 133 Biddle Street, Kane, Pennsylvania, not later than April 15, 1939. The committee, who will review the manuscripts, is composed of men well qualified to judge the merits of the competing essays.

A place will be reserved on the program of the annual meeting for presentation of the Prize Award Essay by the author if it is possible for him to attend. The essay will be published in the annual Proceedings of the Association. This will not prevent its further publication, however, in any journal selected by the author.

Report of Health Survey Forthcoming.—The California Medical Economic Survey, carried out in 1934 and 1935 at a cost of \$100,000 and designed to give the facts regarding both private and public medicine and their relation to the economic picture in the state, is about to issue from the Graphic Arts Press in Washington, D. C. The survey was sponsored by the California Medical Association, the California State Board of Health and the Federal Public Health Agencies.

Much of the research in the survey was handled by Dr. Ernest F. Penrose, associate professor of economics in the University of California on the Berkeley campus, and Dr. Paul A. Dodd, assistant professor of economics on the Los Angeles campus. Doctor Dodd investigated medical care as an economic problem, and Doctor Penrose studied the public health and insurance phases of the survey. Particular attention was paid to the condition and the costs of both public and private medical care in the state and recommendations were made to cover defects the survey disclosed.

An abbreviated copy of the survey was published by the California Medical Association. According to Doctor Penrose the forthcoming volume is the first publication of the survey findings in full.—*Press Sheet, University of California.*

Traffic Officers Given Facts on Drinking Drivers.—Due to the looseness of existing traffic codes the drinking driver is given a valid, though somewhat left-handed argument when it comes to showing that a few libations do not impair his ability as a motorist. He can usually show that his driving is done more carefully, and with less danger of accident, than that of the epileptic, who might fall unconscious at the wheel, and others with unbalanced minds or unbalanced nerves, who are permitted to operate motor vehicles without the slightest restriction under the law.

This was stated to the first Pacific Coast Traffic Officers Training School at the University of California by Dr. George K. Rhodes, associate professor of clinical surgery in the University's medical school in San Francisco. Doctor Rhodes suggested that the best way for the public to upset that dangerous argument would be to devise a system whereby the prospective driver would be subjected to a medical examination and other tests.

Doctor Rhodes presented figures tending to show that 46 per cent of the traffic arrests are for drunken driving and that about 12 per cent of the average driving public are suffering from varying degrees of intoxication. Answering the question as to when a driver may be considered intoxicated, Doctor Rhodes said that a concentration of one-tenth of 1 per cent alcohol in the blood would begin to show indications of intoxication. A concentration of between 1-10 and 2-10 of 1 per cent would show actual intoxication, and from 2-10 to 3-10 of 1 per cent would show a dangerous degree of intoxication, particularly for the man himself, so dangerous in some instances that artificial respiration might be needed.

One out of every 250 drivers may figure to be intoxicated in some degree, Doctor Rhodes said. The peak age for drunken driving appears to be between 25 and 30.

Press Clippings.—Some news items from the daily press, on matters related to medical practice, follow:

Olson Names Board to Study Health Bills

Governor Olson yesterday named a state-wide committee of twenty-one members, headed by Chester H. Rowell, to make an exhaustive study of the compulsory health insurance bills pending before the Legislature.

The Governor has asked the committee to make a report to him on two companion measures, Assembly Bill No. 2172 by a group of authors, including Assemblyman Ben Rosenthal, Los Angeles, and on Senate Bill No. 1128 by Senators John F. Shelley, San Francisco, and Robert W. Kenny, Los Angeles.

Selected on Committee*

Those selected on the committee are: Paul C. Smith, general manager of the *Chronicle*; Dr. Samuel C. May of the University of California faculty; Sheriff Daniel C. Murphy, San Francisco; E. A. McMillan, San Francisco, representative of the Railway Brotherhoods; J. Vernon Burke, San Francisco, executive secretary of the Labor Non-Partisan League; Hugh Wilkins, Los Angeles, representing the Labor Non-Partisan League; Herman Stuyvelaar, secretary of the San Francisco District Industrial Union Council; Dr. Clyde Emery, Los Angeles; Dr. Paul Dodd, professor at the University of California at Los Angeles; Dr. S. J. Sperling, Los Angeles; Ansley Salz, San Francisco industrialist; Hazel C. Woods, representative of the California Nurses' Association; Dr. Thomas Addis, San Francisco; Professor Barbara W. Armstrong, of the law department of the University of California; Dr. Elmer Belt, Los Angeles; Dr. Philip King Brown, San Francisco; Dr. Francis Pottenger, Los Angeles; Dr. Eaton McKay, La Jolla; Dr. Aaron J. Rosanoff, State Director of Institutions; and Dr. G. Chester Gummess, San Francisco.

Medical Aid Plan

These bills set up a plan under which persons would be given medical services, hospitalization and laboratory and other services benefits. Drugs and medicines would be provided. The plan would include maternity cash benefits.

The program would be administered by a new bureau of medical services in the State Department of Employment.

A program of health insurance fund contributions by employers and employees is contemplated. Top contributions by employers would be 2 per cent of the pay roll covering low wage bracket workers. Top contributions by employees would be 1½ per cent in the case of salaries running in excess of \$200 a month. Workers earning under \$70 a month would be insured without making contributions.

Physicians would be permitted to register under the proposed setup for the purpose of contracting with the state to render services to beneficiaries.—*San Francisco Chronicle*, February 28.

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Doctor Pottenger Says Nation Will Adopt Health Insurance

Dr. Francis M. Pottenger, formerly president of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons, in an address before Town Hall at the Biltmore yesterday, said he approved of health insurance. His view is at variance with that of the State Medical Society.

"Compulsory health insurance," he said, "is the only plan which will insure complete, stable income from all groups that require medical care. No matter what may be done by medical men, some form of medical insurance which will give satisfactory service is sure to come."

He said that some form of health insurance like that in England is likely to come in this country eventually. He said that at present 50 per cent of the population of this country is being given medical care by the Government and that another 40 per cent lack funds to pay for a protracted illness.

Doctor Pottenger is head of the Pottenger Sanitarium at Monrovia.—*Los Angeles Times*, February 21.

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Use of Narcotics Drops in State

Sacramento, February 27 (AP).—Use of narcotics in California is rapidly decreasing, State Director of Institutions Aaron J. Rosanoff reported to Governor Olson's monthly council meeting today.

Doctor Rosanoff recommended the narcotic hospital at Spadra, which he said is the only state institution of its

* The list of twenty-one committee members appointed by Governor Olson include nine members of the medical profession, as follows: From San Francisco, Thomas Addis, M.D., and Philip King Brown, M.D.; from Los Angeles, Claude Emery, M.D., S. J. Sperling, M.D., Elmer Belt, M.D., Francis M. Pottenger, M.D., and Chester Gummess, M.D.; from San Diego, Eaton McKay, M.D.; from Sacramento, Aaron J. Rosanoff, M.D.